

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/694,601

Examiner

Kimberly D. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

GUNDLACH, HARALD

Art Unit

2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communication filed March 16, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Amendment

1. Acknowledgment is made of Amendment filed March 16, 2006.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Laurence Greenberg on May 19, 2006.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Re claim 1, line 1: Substitute the claim identifier "original" with --currently amended--.

Re claim 5, line 1: Substitute the claim identifier "original" with --currently amended--.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-8 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Asplund (US 6,293,470) teaches a method for manufacturing a multilayer smart card and card made by the method include a flexible, conducting connection between a microprocessor and internal circuitry that are encapsulated between two carrier layers of flexible, resilient, heat-resistant material, such PET or PEN. The card may include an LCD display.

Roth (US 4,707,594) teaches an improved unitary, self-contained consumer transaction card having an outer support frame, an internally positioned printed circuit board, and top and

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bottom label sheets. The outer support frame provides structural support to the card and minimizes the flow of adhesives located under the top and bottom sheets out from the card. Backfill material inserted on the underside of the bottom label sheet and into the embossed consumer information provides structural strength to the embossed consumer information to prevent damage when the card is used.

Hara et al (US 4,876,441) teaches a card-like electronic apparatus comprises a core member an electronic assembly, an upper cover, and a lower cover. The core member includes a frame having an accommodation section for accommodating the electronic assembly, and a thick portion protruding from the frame. The electronic assembly is arranged in the accommodation section and includes a printed circuit board having a plurality of stational key contacts, an IC chip, an electronically-driven display unit, and a thin flat battery. The upper cover is arranged on one surface of said electronic assembly and includes a pressure-deformable sheet having movable key contacts aligned with said stational key contacts, key indicia aligned with the movable key contacts, and a display window aligned with the display unit. The lower cover includes a supporting plate, arranged over another surface of said electronic assembly, having a cutaway portion in which said thick portion is fitted, and which has high rigidity. An embossment is formed in such a way that each of the upper cover, the thick portion of the core member, and the lower cover has one surface recessed and other surface protruding.

Applicant's remarks on page 6, line 11 through page 12, line 19 of Amendment filed November 25, 2005 have overcome the prior art rejection.

The best prior art of record fails to teach a chip card module for insertion into a card body containing no components, the chip card module having an intermediate carrier forming a

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functional component of the keypad and serving as a carrier for the additional component; the keypad being accessible from outside of the module and from outside of the card body containing no components as set forth in the claim(s).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimberly D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2402. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 571-272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KDN
May 12, 2006

